



Tuolumne-Stanislaus Integrated Regional Water Management Authority Watershed Advisory Committee Meeting, November 28, 2018

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS WAC:

1. Discussion of project priorities, how projects align, and which objectives lack sufficient projects, to include storm water projects
2. Provide a presentation/discussion on stormwater issues within the region
3. Develop additional press releases as project implementation progresses
4. Complete tasks in Section 6 of the Storm Water Chapter

FOLLOW-UP ITEMS JPA:

1. Task the WAC with developing storm water project concepts that include beneficial use of captured water.

HOMEWORK:

1. Review materials sent in advance of the meeting and bring copies with you to the meeting.

MEETING GOALS:

1. Develop recommendations for consideration by the JPA board

****FINALIZED MATERIALS WILL BE AVAILABLE ONLINE****

<http://tstan-irwma.org/>

SUMMARY

1. Opening Remarks, Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items, and Standing Items:

Ms. Carolyn Lott opened the meeting and introductions were made.

The meeting summary was accepted for November 28, 2018.

2. Standing Items:

Grants - Ms. Lindsay Mattos reported DWR wants to change the Round 2 contract to monitor for 3 years instead of 10. DWR has run out of Prop 84 funds so they want to lower their administration funding as they are having to dip into other funds to pay for administrative costs. The Drought Grant project visit by DWR will be in February. The 3rd quarter invoices are in and Ms. Mattos is asking for 4th quarter information.

YSS – Mr. John Buckley provided some background on the collaborative. YSS works with Tuolumne County and the USFS to apply for additional funding for projects. TRT is the fiscal agent.

Members in Good Standing – Ms. Lott reported most members are in good standing. City of Angels is going through a transition, but were present at today's meeting and are interested in re-engaging.

3. Public Comment: Ms. Lott opened the public comment period. No comments were offered.

4. Review of Narrative from Sierra Institute:

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Sierra Institute sent a draft of their descriptions of the communities they identified within the T-Stan IRWM area. Their description of capacity, for purposes of this section, is the ability to take care of yourself as a community.

Comments from WAC members:

The exercise from the workshop that assigned numerical ratings showed some communities rated equally and, in some cases, there are huge differences in the capacities of these communities. Jupiter has no connectivity by road to Cedar Ridge and Big Hill. When you use block groups to identify communities, sometimes they lump together communities that may not be connected in any other way.

On the GIS map, it was suggested to move Forest Meadows to Murphys, the missing piece on the map should be part of Murphys, and the yellow block should be part of Angels. There was also a request to combine Groveland, with Pine Mountain Lake and Big Oak Flat.

There should be a regional description to introduce, and provide context for, the communities section. This description should include statements that apply to all, or at least, most of the communities in the region. Suggestions for the regional description include, but are not limited to:

- Communities should not be singled out for cannabis issues, as it is an issue across the IRWM region. It should be referred to as the “cannabis industry” instead of pot grows, etc.
- All communities have drug and other criminal activities.
- None of the communities in the region should be described as wealthy or very wealthy. There may be some very nice homes within a community, but there is not wealth as one knows it in areas such as the Bay Area and SoCal.
- Many residential and business structures are on individual wells and septic.
- The region consists of very old “Gold Rush” towns with aging infrastructure and reoccurring vacancies.
- The Tribal communities should be pulled out separately as they are sovereign nations.
- Throughout the region one can find historical infrastructure, to include open ditches and tunnels. This leads to water vulnerabilities. There is a need for water supply redundancy.
- NOTE: Community scores within the region are relative to what a score could be in this area and **should not** be compared to scores in other places in the state.

Bear Valley:

Angels Camp: Remove reference to the MAC as Angels Camp has never been part of the MAC IRWM. The fact that there are some residents who support of the State of Jefferson movement is not relevant as it is a political statement. Food pantries serve a greater area than just the city. The fairgrounds are located here and are the evacuation center for the county.

Arnold/Avery/Dorrington: They recently replaced their water main, not the entire system.

Cedar Ridge/Big Hill/Jupiter: There is no connectivity or organizational relationships among these communities. Jupiter has extreme poverty and no organizational structure. Big Hill is similar, but slightly less remote. Overall, Cedar Ridge residents have some capacity.

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Columbia: Some infrastructure improvements have been made recently. Blue Mountain Minerals business activities impact roads. Columbia College **is not** located in Columbia.

Copperopolis/Copper Cove: Copperopolis is entirely on septic systems. There are agricultural lands within this area, as well.

Crystal Falls: There are moderate levels of involvement within this area.

Pine Mountain Lake: The majority of the properties have year-round water consumption. There is a high population of retirees and second home owners. There is also a high number of septic systems where a sewer system is within a feasible distance for eventual hookups.

East Sonora: Add that the Sierra Pacific Mill (SPI) is in East Sonora.

Jamestown: Many residents rely on public assistance. There are minimal residents who volunteer. Remove the reference to "stigma." A number of structures are not in good condition. The community struggles with low incomes.

Groveland/Big Oak Flat: All of this area is a DAC for low income. Remove the physical capital sentence. Big Oak Flat is more affected by lack of infrastructure to deliver water. Take out the reference to disaster.

Quartz/Stent: TUD installed a water pipe. There is a lack of capacity to apply for grants and address local needs.

Soulsbyville: ok

Twain Harte: Change to "many units" in the shopping center have been vacant for decades. The downtown area infrastructure is aging, and outlying areas are on septic and wells.

Tuttletown/Rawhide/Chicken Ranch: Remove the reference to drinks and music. It is not Chicken Ranch. Either refer to it as Chicken Rancheria or Chicken Ranch Me-Wuk Band of Indians.

Tuolumne & Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians: Tuolumne has aging infrastructure and lacks sufficient water capacity. Refer to the Tribe's Fire Dept., not district. The Tribe voluntarily puts money back into the local economy which is a great strength to build upon. The fact that the town of Tuolumne depends, to a certain extent, upon voluntary contributions from the Tribe contributes to the challenges of the town.

Tamarack:

Groveland/Yosemite: Refer to economic benefit rather than "large profits."

Chinese Camp/Keystone/Red Hills: Add this is the location of the Sierra Conservation Center (although the address is Jamestown). SPI has one of its mills here and a chip plant (address is Jamestown). Baseline Conservation Camp and the George Reed Rock Plant are located here (addresses are Jamestown).

Lake Don Pedro: This community is bisected by county lines (Tuolumne/Mariposa) creating issues.

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Long Barn/Pinecrest/Strawberry: Elementary school was shut down from budget cuts. There is a high school in Pinecrest.

Mi-Wuk/Confidence:

Murphys/Douglas Flat: These areas are dependent on county resources

Old Wards Ferry/Algerine Wards Ferry:

Phoenix Lake: This community, with mainly small subdivision size lots, is entirely on individual septics and is located above a water source.

Sonora: This is the commerce center of Tuolumne County. There is a lot of community engagement. It is the only incorporated city and the county seat and cultural center. The homeless are localized here. Roads are impacted by large trucks as a state highway runs through the middle of downtown. It is the medical community for the county. The fairgrounds are located here and are the evacuation center for the county. Columbia College is in Sonora.

Agreement: There was agreement to direct staff to put together the comments and submit them to Sierra Institute.

5. Project Update TCRCD Conservation Project:

This item was postponed due to lack of time.

6. DACI Feedback Exercise with Mapping:

Mr. Seth Connolly noted the DAC definition depends on which state agency one is working with. Some places have changed from DAC when the 2016 data was used. When using the Enviro Screen, there is a clause that the project can fall under the guidelines if 75% of staff hours are performed by residents of a DAC. TRT has utilized residents of valley DACs.

It was suggested to move Forest Meadows to Murphys, the missing piece on the map should be part of Murphys, and the yellow block should be part of Angels. There was also a request to combine Groveland, with Pine Mountain Lake and Big Oak Flat. (Noted above, also.)

7. Prop 68 and Prop One Funding:

Within Prop 68 funding there is a lot of opportunity, especially for parks. Two of the parks in current IRWMP projects have stormwater opportunities. The project worksheet is open now to accept projects into the plan.

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfBhoXeDFrNGVBa7HymfKCQmdTj9-GQdflnjWP1ollezG81iA/viewform>

Healthy Soils funding is a good place for agricultural projects. Storm Water funding has been moved to this summer.

8. Other Water News:

A member said the Water Board did approve the Bay-Delta Plan and it is being litigated. It will be 2-3 years before Phase 2 is developed. There will be no implementation of Phase One until Phase Two of the plan is completed.

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TRT announced there will be a snowshoe hike at Pinecrest a week from Saturday. AmeriCorps and CCC are working on RCD projects

9. Wrap-Up and Adjournment:

Mr. Peter Martin offered to bring February snacks.

Next WAC and JPA Meetings:

The next WAC & JPA Meetings: February 20, 2019

Submitted by:

Ms. Carolyn Lott

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Watershed Advisory Committee Members

| | | |
|-------------------|--|---------|
| Joe Bors | Amador-Tuolumne Community Action Agency | Present |
| | ATCAA/Alternate | |
| Peter Martin | Calaveras County Water District | Present |
| Joel Metzger | CCWD/Alternate | |
| Tom Parrington | Central Sierra Audubon | Present |
| Tom Harrington | CSA/Alternate | Present |
| John Buckley | Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center | Present |
| Meg Layhee | CSERC/Alternate | |
| | City of Angels Camp | |
| Aaron Randi | CAC/Alternate | |
| Colette Such | City of Sonora | Present |
| Connie Williams | CS/Alternate | Present |
| Cindy Secada | Murphys Sanitary District | Present |
| Joseph Fontana | MSD/Alternate | |
| Brian Langley | MSD/Alternate | |
| Adam Coyan | Pinecrest Permittees Assoc. | Present |
| Tim Fisher | PPA/Alternate | |
| Dore Bietz | TB of Me-Wuk Indians | Present |
| Doug Roberson | TBMWI/Alternate | Present |
| Vicki Stone | TBMWI/Alternate | |
| Daniel Richardson | Tuolumne County | |
| Liz Peterson | TC/Alternate | |
| Kirk Ford | Tuolumne County Resource Conservation District | Present |
| Kevin Rice | Tuolumne Group Sierra Club | Present |
| Jon M. Sturtevant | TGSC/Alternate | |
| Patrick Koepele | Tuolumne River Trust | |

Summary: T-S IRWM WAC Meeting

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| Seth Connolly | TRT/Alternate | Present |
| Lisa Westbrook | Tuolumne Utilities District | Present |
| Makayla Dillon | TUD/Alternate | Present |
| Erik Johnson | TUD/Alternate | |
| Tom Trott | Twain Harte Community Services District | Present |
| Robb Perry | THCSD/Alternate | |
| | U.S. Forest Service – Stanislaus National Forest | |
| Lucas Wilkinson | USFS/Alternate | |
| Ann Denton | USFS/Alternate | |
| Michael Minkler | Utica Water & Power Authority | |
| Karen Rojas | UWPA/Alternate | |
| Lori Karnes | UWPA/Alternate | Present |

IRWMA Staff

| Name | Organization | Attendance |
|----------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| Carolyn Lott | Carlson Consulting | Present |
| Lindsay Mattos | TCRCD | Present |

Other Interested Parties Present

| Name | Organization |
|------------------|---------------------|
| Ron Ringen | TUD |
| Zaira Lopez | RWQCB |
| Barbara Balen | TUD |
| Spencer Edwards | GCSD |
| Pete Kampa | GCSD |
| Ryan Campbell | TC BOS |
| Ellyse Varone | TRT |
| Max Stecher | TRT |
| Amanda Folendorf | City of Angels Camp |
| Kevin Silva | CofAC |